DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 208 817 IR 009 412

AUTHOR Hoyle, Karen Nelson
TITLE Special Collections of Children's Literature in an American Academic Setting.
PUB DATE Aug 80
NOTE 11p.; Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations (Manila, Philippines, August 18-23, 1980). For related documents, see IR 009 411-413. Some pages may not reproduce well due to poor print quality of the original.

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Academic Libraries; *Childrens Literature; History; *Information Seeking; *Library Collections; Reading Materials; *Research Libraries; Resource Materials
IDENTIFIERS *University of Minnesota

ABSTRACT

The Childrens Literature Research Collections (CLRC), an aggregate of several collections of books, manuscripts, and illustrations at the University of Minnesota Libraries, are described in terms of their origin and their uses for teaching, research, and outreach in an academic setting. The collections discussed include the Kerlan Collection, the Hess Collection, the Periodicals Collection, the Beulah Counts Rudolph Collection, the Mildred L. Batchelder Collection, the Series Book Collection, the Paul Bunyan Collection, and others supplied mostly by private donors. Monographs, special studies, articles, educational kits and exhibit catalogs, and theses that describe or have made use of the collections are listed as an appendix. (RAA)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED2088817

IFLA General Conference 1980

Division: Libraries Serving the General Public

Round Table: Librarians Representing Documentation Centres Serving Research on Children's Literature

20/DOC CHIL/1E

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EDUCATION & WELFARE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN AN AMERICAN ACADEMIC SETTING

By

Karen Nelson HOYLE
Curator
Children's Literature Research Collections
University of Minnesota
MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota
USA

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Carol K. Henry

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

IR009412

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN AN AMERICAN ACADEMIC SETTING

BY

KAREN NELSON HOYLE, CURATOR

Children's Literature Research Collections (CLRC) is an umbrella term for several collections of books, manuscripts, and illustrations in the University of Minnesota Libraries. These include the Kerlan Collection, the Hess Collection, the Series Book Collection, the Paul Bunyan Collection, the Periodicals Collection, the Beulah Counts Rudolph Collection, the Mildred L. Batchelder Collection, and others. The origins of the collections differ, but they are largely dependent on private donors. As special collections in an academic setting, they exist for the purposes of teaching, research, and outreach.

Origin of Collections and Collection Development

Private donors are responsible for amassing the major collections. The Kerlan Collection, which consists of first editions, manuscripts, and illustrations, was founded in 1949 by the donation of Irvin Kerlan (1912-1963), a physician and an alumnus of the University of Minnesota Medical School and School of Public

Health. That collection now numbers 30,000 books, and manuscripts and illustrations for several thousand titles. Dr. Kerlan's method of acquiring original materials by soliciting individual by individual is continued by the present staff.

The Hess Collection of dime novels and story papers was created when George Hess (1873-1954), a prominent Saint Paul, Minnesota citizen, stipulated in his will that his collection be transferred to University Libraries, which occurred in 1954. Some 70,000 issues comprise that collection. The third major collection, the Series Book Collection, was formed in 1974 from a nucleus bequeathed by Mr. Hess. It has been developed largely by volunteer effort in recent years, and now totals 10,000 volumes.

The Paul Bunyan Collection is a composite from four collectors interested in a figure from American lumbering tradition. Most of the Periodicals were subscribed to by University Libraries in the 19th and 20th centuries, but they are enhanced by gifts. A near complete run of American Boy, for example, was donated during the last decade; the donor's heirs have just discovered his handwritten index of the monthly issues, of value to scholars. Comic Books, particularly Classics Illustrated, and five hundred Big Little Books, are important adjuncts. A teacher of children's literature in New York'state, Beulah Counts Rudolph (1906-1973), purchased figurines, wall hangings, and bookmarks in the countries in which she traveled. Mildred L. Batchelder, retired Executive Secretary of Children's Services Division of the American Library Association, assists in acquiring the original books and American translations for the nominees for the award given in her honor. Finally, the CLRC reference collection is supported by extensive holdings in the main library.

Teaching

Faculty bring classes to the reading room to integrate primary source material into the curriculum. Design students study line, texture, and color in Janina Domanska's If All the Seas Were One Sea (Macmillan, 1971). Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire's lithograph stones for The Terrible Troll-Bird (Doubleday 1976) add to an understanding of one printing method in Graphic Arts. Linguistics students have used Ann Conrad Lammer's translation and correspondence with the American editor to further understand Jörg Steiner's Rabbit Island (Die Kaninchenisel; Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1978), which won for the publisher the Mildred L. Batchelder Award in 1979. Art Education students plan how the linoleum blocks for Janet McCaffery's Swamp Witch (Morrow, 1970) might be used in conjunction with an elementary school art project. American Indian students peruse the research notes made by an author to check the authenticity of perceptions about a particular tribe.

In a survey funded by the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs in 1975-76, eighty of some ninety faculty interviewed indentified a teaching component or research interest in an aspect of children's literature.

Field Trips for Children and Young Adults

In addition to the students from the university and nearby colleges who use the collection heavily, children accompany a teacher, librarian or parent to view the treasures. With special guidance, they may handle the manuscripts and art. Wanda Gág, Ellen Raskin, Beverly Cleary, Glen Rounds, Marguerite Henry, and Roger Duvoisin are presently the most frequently requested holdings. Presumably, the youngsters have become acquainted with the books in their respective classrooms, and pursue in-depth investigation in the reading room. Senior high school

students may, for example, compare an English edition with a French, or learn techniques for drawing feathers or fur to enhance their own creations.

Research

The significance of a collection is measured not only in terms of quantity and growth of holdings, but also by the reputation and use of the collection by scholars contributing to the increasing body of critical knowledge about children's literature and its place in our culture. The 1978 Arbuthnot Lecturer from Israel, Uriel Ofek, made a special trip while in Boston to study the collection, and in 1979 curator Darren Ryan of the Australian children's literature collection extended his trip to London and New York to visit CLRC.

The Hess Fellowships offered in 1979-1981 attract applications from major researchers in children's literature. Professors Mae Benne, University of Washington Library School; Evelyn J. Anderson, University of Maryland; and Mary L. Woodworth, University of Wisconsin Library School, have visited the collection while on sabbatical leaves. Researchers have come from Australia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, and Trinidad.

Recognition of CLRC's significance has also come from Barbara Bader, who acknowledged the Kerlan Collection in her monumental American Picture Books from Noah's Ark to the Beast Within (Macmillan, 1976).

The collections have supported at least six doctoral theses in as many years, 75 master of arts degree theses, and literally hundreds of graduate and undergraduate course papers.

Doctoral and master's theses are cataloged in the reference collection, for they have been approved by a committee of faculty members. Rose Barclay's master's thesis, "Critical Review of Selected Writings of Jean Craighead George from Early

Manuscript to Finished Book," for the College of Education in 1975 could only have been done at the Kerlan Collection, where the unique materials are housed. For her Library School degree, Barbara Sproat in 1976 submitted "Evaluation of the Original Foreign and American Editions of the Mildred L. Batchelder Award Books as to Fidelity of Translations." Few collections would have both editions for comparison. Course papers range from the "Role of the Wolf in Editions of Red Riding Hood" to "Flowers as Symbolism in Scandinavian Folk Literature" to "Editorial Changes in Manuscripts."

Outreach-Publications

An occasional newsletter alerts the university and even national children's literature community to developments in CLRC. Brochures such as the Kerlan Collection Twenty-fifth Anniversary pamphlet and keepsakes in commemoration of the Kerlan Award are distributed. Some articles have been published which describe the CLRC, or are based on research in the collection. (See appendix.) Girls Series Books; a Checklist of Hardback Books Published 1900-1975 was published in 1976, funded by the Saint Paul Foundation.

Outreach-Exhibits

CLRC follows in the footsteps of Dr. Kerlan, who generously loaned his books for Book Week exhibits in Washington, D.C., where he lived, and for overseas displays sponsored by the State Department. Materials have been loaned for 34 national and international exhibits, ten sites on campus, and 95 Walter Library lobby mountings during the last ten years. Volunteers usually select and install the latter. Two formal exhibits are touring, sponsored by the Minnesota State Arts Board in conjunction with the University of Minnesota Gallery.

Outreach-Events

Creators and scholars are brought together with students and interested community people in a variety of public events, from formal lecture to open house. The Kerlan Award, for example, was presented at a luncheon to Margot Zemach in May 1979 by Wenda Moore, Chairman of the Board of Regents. Slides of her sketches for Mazel and Schlimazel (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1967) in the collection were projected, while Emilie Buchwald, and area author, read from Isaac Bashevis Singer's text. Occasionally these events are co-sponsored with departments such as Elementary Education, Library School, Philosophy, and Cross-Disciplinary Studies. Erik Haugaard participated in a Hans Christian Andersen lecture series to commemorate the International Year of the Child, supported in part by the Minnesota Humanities Commission. Publishers occasionally provide help with an author's visit. The Children's Literature Association will have its eighth annual conference at the University of Minnesota March 27-29, 1981.

In conclusion, the CLRC is located at the University of Minnesota Libraries to fulfill the mission of teaching, research, and outreach related to children's literature. The staff of one curator, one secretary, and student assistants, is enlarged by generosity and a spirit of volunteerism from the greater community. The private donors, foundations, publishers, and volunteers from the private sector have interfaced with the University of Minnesota to further the goals of the Children's Literature Research Collections.

Monographs and Special Studies 1974-1978

1. Hearn, Michael Patrick. 50 YEARS OF WANDA GAG'S MILLIONS OF CATS: 1928-1978. New York: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1978. 14 pp.
2. McLean, Austin. HESS COLLECTION: DIME NOVELS, STORY PAPERS, BOYS & GIRLS SERIES BOOKS, PAPERBOUND LIBRARIES. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Libraries Special Collections Department, 1974. 16 pp.
3. Quinn, Laura. VICTORIAN POPULAR FICTION. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Libraries Special Collections Department, 1974. 12 pp.
4. Swenson, Grace Stageberg. MINNESOTA IN BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY WITH SUBJECT AND TITLE INDEX. Minneapolis: Voyageur Press, 1975. 150 pp.

Articles 1970-1980

1. Berman, Ruth. BAUM/OZ HOLDINGS IN THE KERLAN COLLECTION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LIBRARY. Forthcoming in the BAUM BUGLE.
2. _____. THE MYSTERIES OF THE KERLAN/HESS COLLECTIONS. Forthcoming in THE ARMCHAIR DECTECTIVE.
3. _____. A NOTE ON MYTHOPOEIC HOLDINGS IN THE KERLAN COLLECTION. MYTHLORE, vol. 5 no. 4 (Fall 1979): 32, 42.
4. _____. A NOTE ON SOME CARROLL/LEAR HOLDINGS IN THE KERLAN COLLECTION. Forthcoming in the Lewis Carroll Society's KNIGHT LETTER.
5. Cox, J. Randolph. NEW NICK CARTER WEEKLY: BIBLIOGRAPHIC LISTING. DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP, Supplement, vol. 44 no. 9 (December 1975): 64 pp.
6. _____. ON THE TRACK OF POPULAR CULTURE: THE STORY OF THE HESS COLLECTION OF DIME NOVELS, STORY PAPERS AND NEWSSTAND LITERATURE. DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP, vol. 42 no. 12 (December 15, 1973): 134-141.
7. Cox, Richard W. WANDA GAG: THE BITE OF THE PICTURE BOOK. MINNESOTA HISTORY, vol. 44 no. 7 (Fall 1975): 239-254.
8. ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MYSTERY AND DETECTION. S. v. "Dime Novels," by J. Randolph Cox. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1976.
9. Hamrin, Margarete. A STUDY OF SWEDISH IMMIGRANT CHILDREN'S LITERATURE PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES, 1850-1920. PHAEDRUS, vol. 6 no. 1 (Spring 1979): 71-78.
10. Hearn, Michael Patrick. L. FRANK BAUM AND THE 'MODERNIZED FAIRY TALE.' CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN EDUCATION, vol. 10 no. 2 (1979): 57-62.
11. Hoyle, Karen Nelson. A CHILDREN'S CLASSIC: MILLIONS OF CATS." MANUSCRIPTS 31 (Fall 1979): 254-267.
12. _____. CHILDREN'S LITERATURE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES. MANUSCRIPTS 31 (Fall 1979): 268-270.
13. _____. INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS IN THE KERLAN COLLECTION. BOOKBIRD, vol. 14 no. 2 (1976): 17-28.
14. Huntzicker, Bill. MASSACRED: GEN. CUSTER AND 261 MEN THE VICTIMS. UPDATE, vol. 4 no. 1 (Summer 1976): 1-3.
15. Lowe, Benjamin, and Payne, Mark H. TO BE A RED-BLOODED AMERICAN BOY. JOURNAL OF POPULAR CULTURE, vol. 8 no. 2 (Fall 1974): 382/29-391/37 (section: "In-Depth: Sports: A Social Scoreboard").

CIRC. Articles 1970-1980/Educational Kits and Exhibit Catalogs 1973-1979.

16. Makinen, Ruth. ALICE IN WONDERLAND: INTERACTIONS BETWEEN A BOOK AND CHANGING CULTURES. MnU BULLETIN 2 (January-April 1971): 7-17.
17. McLean, Austin. THE HESS COLLECTION OF DIME NOVELS, STORY PAPERS, ETC. AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA. AMERICAN BOOK COLLECTOR, vol. 25 no. 3 (January-February 1975): 25-29.
18. Messenger, Christian. SPORT IN THE DIME NOVEL. JOURNAL OF AMERICAN CULTURE, vol. 1 no. 3 (1978): 494-505.
19. Mooney, Joan Margaret. BEST SELLING AMERICAN DETECTIVE FICTION. THE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE, serialized in: vol. 3 no. 2 (January 1970); vol. 3 no. 3 (April 1970); vol. 3 no. 4 (July 1970); vol. 4 no. 1 (October 1970); vol. 4 no. 2 (January 1971). Serialization of JMM's Ph. D. thesis THE AMERICAN DETECTIVE STORY: A STUDY IN POPULAR FICTION (University of Minnesota, 1968).
20. Nelson, Karen Anne. NEWBERY AND CALDECOTT AWARD MISCELLANY IN THE KERLAN COLLECTION. TOP OF THE NEWS 29 (April 1973): 239-247.
21. Nord, Mary Ann. WANDA GÁG MAKES A WISH COME TRUE. ROOTS 8 (Winter 1980): 16-23.
22. Odland, Norine. THE KERLAN COLLECTION OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LIBRARY. ELEMENTARY ENGLISH 44 (1967): 749-752.
23. Parker, Pat. PROFILE: GLEN ROUNDS--ARTIST AND STORYTELLER. LANGUAGE ARTS 55 (September 1978): 744-748.
24. Rapport, Rebecca Tisdel. PAUL BUNYAN: HERO OF THE NORTH WOODS. LANGUAGE ARTS 56 (April 1979): 394-399.
25. Richardson, Carmen. HARRY BEHN: WIZARD OF CHILDHOOD. ELEMENTARY ENGLISH 51 (1974): 974-976, 1002.

Educational Kits and Exhibit Catalogs 1973-1979

1. THE CHILD IN FANTASY: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD 1979. Minneapolis: Coffman Memorial Union Gallery 1, University of Minnesota, 1979. 4 pp.
2. IF I WERE THE DRAGON, WHERE WOULD I BE ? Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Gallery, 1977. 10 pp.
3. Murray, Donald K., and Burton, Albert, Jr. WRITE TO COMMUNICATE: THE LANGUAGE ARTS IN PROCESS. Pleasantville, New York: Reader's Digest Services, Educational Division, 1973. Grades 3-6 kits.
4. ONCE UPON A TIME: ILLUSTRATIONS OF CHILDREN'S TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD: SELECTIONS FROM THE KERLAN COLLECTION RESEARCH CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Gallery, 1979. 16 pp.

Ph. D. Theses 1968-1975.

Unless otherwise noted, theses were done for the University of Minnesota.

1. Barnett, Patricia Mary. ENGLISH BOYS' WEEKLIES, 1866-1899. March 1974.
2. Colberg, Donald. MORAL AND SOCIAL VALUES IN AMERICAN ADVENTURE NOVELS FOR BOYS, 1865-1900. March 1973.
3. Messenger, Christian. SPORT IN AMERICAN LITERATURE, 1830-1930. Northwestern University. August 1974.
4. Mooney, Joan Margaret. THE AMERICAN DETECTIVE STORY: A STUDY IN POPULAR FICTION. July 1968.
5. Nelson, Karen Anne. THE FIDELITY OF THE TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF SELECTED DANISH CHILDREN'S FICTION TRANSLATED AND PUBLISHED IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES, EXCLUDING WORKS BY HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN. March 1975.
6. Stein, Ruth. A METHOD FOR STUDYING THE CHILDREN'S LITERATURE OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY USING THE CHILDREN'S LITERATURE OF ISRAEL AS A CASE STUDY. June 1970.